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THE FINCH PRIMER

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THE FINCH PRIMER

BY

ADELAIDE V. FINCH
PRINCIPAL OF THE NORMAL TRAINING SCHOOL, LEWISTON, MAINE
FORMERLY OF THE MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THREE HUNDRED WORDS

BOSTON, U.S.A., AND LONDON
GINN & COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
The Athenæum Press
1897

V. date 7 75.09.420.

HARVARD COLLEGE
MAR 11 1919
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PREFACE.

THERE is need of a systematically constructed, carefully graded primer, based upon sound educational principles. Such a primer should consider the environment of the child at different seasons of the year; it should inculcate a love of home, of country, of nature, and kindness to animals; it should present simple lessons, which are outgrowths of *conversational, objective language work*, as such lessons from their very nature appeal strongly and directly to the child; it should leave the teacher perfectly free to use her own method, or the best from all methods, although our best educators believe that blackboard and book work should go hand in hand.

In writing this primer these thoughts have been borne in mind, and the author trusts that to the many progressive, first-grade teachers in this country, now working with the same thoughts in view, this little book will be acceptable.

ADELAIDE V. FINCH.

LEWISTON, MAINE,
March 4, 1897.

Poems related to Autumn and Winter Lessons, suitable for Kindergarten and First Grade Children.

1. September, *H. H.*
2. The Wind and the Leaves, *Hailmann's Songs.*
3. Thanksgiving Day, *Whittier's Child Life.*
4. The New Moon, *Whittier's Child Life.*
5. The Little Moon, *Verse and Prose for Beginners in Reading.*
6. The Star, *Verse and Prose for Beginners in Reading.*
7. Lady Moon, *Open Sesame, Vol. I.*
8. Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.
9. Beautiful Things, *Harper's Second Reader.*
10. A Short Sermon, *Alice Cary.*
11. Obedience, *Phœbe Cary.*
12. Suppose, *Phœbe Cary.*

Poems related to Spring and Summer Lessons.

1. Waiting to Grow, *Stickney's Third Reader.*

In *All the Year Round*, Part III.

2. Pussy Willow.
3. What Robin Told.
4. May.
5. The Dandelion.
6. The Song of the Thrush, *Stickney's Second Reader.*
7. The Wide World, *Matthew Browne.*

In *Verse and Prose for Beginners.*

8. Who Stole the Bird's Nest?
9. The Sun's Travels.
10. Good Night and Good Morning.
11. Sweet and Low.
12. The Bird and Its Nest.
13. A Dewdrop.
14. Daisies.
15. Answer to a Child's Question.

In Poulsson's *In the Child's World.*

16. Pussy Willow.
17. The Little Plant.
18. The Sunbeams.

In *Fairyland of Flowers.*

19. Song, *Celia Thaxter.*
20. A Little Poet.
21. The Forget-me-not.

AUTUMN LESSONS.

NOTE. — Whenever it is possible, have the objects of the lessons present in the class.

leaf This

maple a is

This is a leaf.

This is a maple leaf.

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flower See It

See this flower!

It is a pretty flower.

It is red.

I

see

golden-rod yellow

Golden-rod

I see a flower.

It is yellow.

It is golden-rod.

Golden-rod is yellow.

have

I have a leaf.

I have a flower.

I have a maple leaf.

I have an oak leaf.

I have golden-rod.

REVIEW WORDS.

leaf	red
maple	flower
a	see
this	it
an	golden-rod
is	yellow
oak	have
pretty	I

REVIEW.

A maple leaf is pretty.

An oak leaf is pretty.

A red flower is pretty.

A yellow flower is pretty.

Golden-rod is pretty.

it you

Have apple green

I have an apple.

Is it a red apple?

Is it a yellow apple?

It is a green apple.

Have you an apple?

The roll

round the

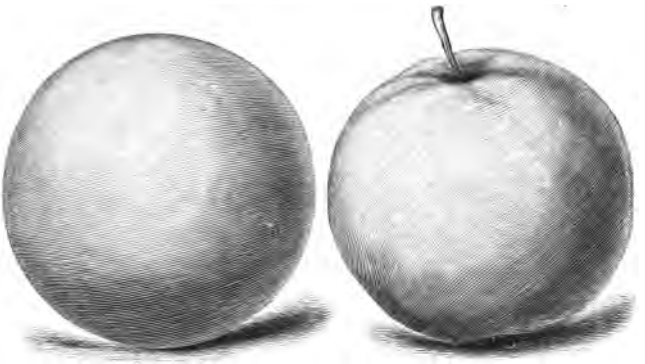
I see a green apple.

The green apple is round.

I see a red apple.

The red apple is round.

I roll the apple.



sphere My

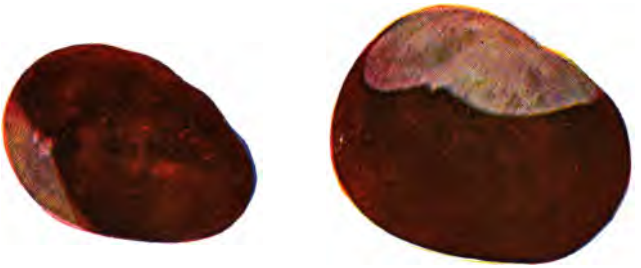
can my

My sphere is round.

I can roll my sphere.

My apple is round.

I can roll my apple.



horse-chestnut

hard shiny

I have a horse-chestnut.

The horse-chestnut is round.

The horse-chestnut is hard.

The horse-chestnut is shiny.

It is my horse-chestnut.

squirrel jump run

This is a squirrel.

It is a pretty squirrel.

The squirrel can jump.

The squirrel can run.

I can jump.

I can run.

had

I had a green apple.

I had a red apple.

I had a yellow apple.

I had a maple leaf.

I had an oak leaf.

I had a horse-chestnut.

REVIEW WORDS.

green	sphere
had	can
apple	horse-chestnut
roll	shiny
round	hard
the	run
my	jump
squirrel	you

REVIEW.

Can you roll a sphere?

Can you roll an apple?

Can you roll
a horse-chestnut?

Can the squirrel jump?

Can the squirrel run?

Can you jump?

Can you run?

NOTE. — Have children perform the actions.

nest gone

robins Where

See this nest!

It is a robin's nest.

The robins have gone.

Where have the robins gone?

moon bright night at

I can see the moon.

The moon is round.

The moon is bright.

It is a yellow moon.

I see it at night.

me God

And sees bless

"I see the moon.

The moon sees me.

God bless the moon,

And God bless me."

stars twinkle in little

I see you, little stars.
Can you see me?
You twinkle, twinkle,
twinkle.
You twinkle in the night.

are Sittle

Sittle stars, you are yellow.

Sittle stars, you are bright.

Sittle stars, I can see you.

I see you at night.

"Twinkle, twinkle,

little star."

Where are the robins?

Where are the squirrels?

Where are the flowers?

Where are
the horse-chestnuts?

Where are the stars?

Where is the moon?

REVIEW WORDS.

Where	bright	in
gone	night	at
nest	me	And
robins	are	God
moon	sees	bless
stars	twinkle	

had

I had a green apple.

I had a red apple.

I had a yellow apple.

I had a maple leaf.

I had an oak leaf.

I had a horse-chestnut.

REVIEW WORDS.

green	sphere
had	can
apple	horse-chestnut
roll	shiny
round	hard
the	run
my	jump
squirrel	you

REVIEW.

Can you roll a sphere?

Can you roll an apple?

Can you roll
a horse-chestnut?

Can the squirrel jump?

Can the squirrel run?

Can you jump?

Can you run?

NOTE. — Have children perform the actions.

nest gone

robins Where

See this nest!

It is a robin's nest.

The robins have gone.

Where have the robins gone?

moon bright night at

I can see the moon.

The moon is round.

The moon is bright.

It is a yellow moon.

I see it at night.

me God

And sees bless

"I see the moon.

The moon sees me.

God bless the moon,

And God bless me."

stars twinkle in little

I see you, little stars.
Can you see me?
You twinkle, twinkle,
twinkle.
You twinkle in the night.

are Sittle

Sittle stars, you are yellow.

Sittle stars, you are bright.

Sittle stars, I can see you.

I see you at night.

"Twinkle, twinkle,

little star."

Where are the robins?

Where are the squirrels?

Where are the flowers?

Where are
the horse-chestnuts?

Where are the stars?

Where is the moon?

REVIEW WORDS.

Where	bright	in
gone	night	at
nest	me	And
robins	are	God
moon	sees	bless

stars twinkle

REVIEW.

See the apples!

Are the apples green?

This apple is green.

This is a red apple.

This is a yellow apple.

The green apple is hard.

The red apple is shiny.

I have the yellow apple.

You have the shiny,

red apple.

Thanksgiving Day

for papa

thank mamma

Thanksgiving Day

is for you.

Thanksgiving Day

is for me.

It is for mamma

and papa.

I thank God for mamma.

I thank God for papa.

MEMORY GEM.

The birds and bees and flowers have gone,
The butterflies have fled.
The little seeds sleep safe from harm,
Tucked in their soft, warm bed.

The brown hills glisten in the rain,
The wind blows bleak and cold.
A flake of snow we sometimes see,—
The Autumn has grown old.

WINTER LESSONS.

The robins have gone.

The robins have gone.

The flowers have gone.

The flowers have gone.

snow-flakes white look

snow-flakes white look

we how us

we how us

Look at us!

Look at us!

We are little snow-flakes.

We are little snow-flakes.

How white we are!

How white we are!

How pretty we are!

How pretty we are!

cover keep warm

cover keep warm

ground grass too

ground grass too

We are little snow stars.

We are little snow stars.

We are pretty,

white snow stars.

We are pretty, white snow stars.

We cover the ground.

We cover the ground.

We keep the flowers warm.

We keep the flowers warm.

We keep the grass warm, too

We keep the grass warm, too.

warm	white	us
warm	white	us
cover	grass	we
cover	grass	we
mamma	papa	for
mamma	papa	for
thank	how	keep
thank	how	keep
ground	look	too
ground	look	too

snow-flakes

snow-flakes

Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day

like do

I like the robins
and the flowers.
I like the squirrels, too.
I like the moon,
I like the stars.
I like the snow; do you?

---

like do

I like the robins and the flowers.
I like the squirrels, too.
I like the moon.
I like the stars.
I like the snow; do you?

cold hurrah sleigh
winter rides

How cold it is!
It is winter.
In winter we have snow.
In winter we have sleigh rides.
We like the snow.
We like the sleigh rides.
Hurrah for the snow!
Hurrah for the sleigh rides!

house	my	baby
home	on	brother

See this pretty little house!
It is my home.
Do you see the snow on the house?
It is winter at my home.
Mamma is at home.
Baby is at home, too.
Baby is my brother.

love	to	work
Nellie	sister	happy
	good	

I love my baby brother.

I love my mamma.

I love my papa.

Papa is at work for us.

I love Nellie.

Nellie is my sister.

Nellie is good to baby and me.

My home is happy.

I love my home.

Christmas will be
coming make shall

Christmas is coming.
Hurrah for Christmas!
I will make mamma happy.
I will make papa happy.
I shall be happy.

Santa Claus toys present there

I will make mamma a present.
I will make papa a present.
Baby shall have a present, too.
Santa Claus is coming.
Santa Claus rides in a sleigh.
There are toys in the sleigh.
Hurrah for Santa Claus and the toys!

REVIEW WORDS.

like	do	on
rides	be	will
sleigh	my	shall
hurrah	to	coming
winter	good	Christmas
cold	sister	toys
love	Nellie	there
brother	work	present
baby	make	happy
home	house	Santa Claus

REVIEW.

We have snow in winter.

The snow is white and pretty.

I like the snow; do you?

I like to run in the snow.

Baby sees me run.

Baby can have a ride in the snow.

Baby will be happy.

Hurrah for baby!

Hurrah for a sleigh ride!

tree doll box our

cup book candles

See our Christmas-tree!

It is a pretty tree.

There are candles on it.

There are presents on the tree, too.

I see a doll and a cup.

I see a book and a box.

The box is for mamma.

The book is for papa.

The cup is for baby.

The doll is for me.

Have you a Christmas present?

Have you a Christmas-tree?

Nellie has a Christmas-tree.
It is a pretty Christmas-tree.
It is green like our tree.
There are yellow stars
on Nellie's tree.
There are candles on the tree, too.
The candles make the stars twinkle.
There are apples on Nellie's tree.
The apples are red and shiny.
There are pretty toys on the tree.
There are toys for Nellie and baby.
There are presents
for mamma and papa.
Nellie likes the Christmas-tree.

new	your	store
year	rock	try
	John	

This is the new year.

A Happy New Year to you.

A Happy New Year
to mamma and papa.

To Nellie A Happy New Year.

To baby A Happy New Year.

I will make mamma happy this year.

I will try to be good.

I will run to the store for mamma.

I will rock baby John for mamma.

Will you try to be good this new year?

Will you make your mamma happy, too?

REVIEW WORDS.

tree	tree	our	our
book	book	store	store
box	box	rock	rock
doll	doll	year	year
cup	cup	new	new
candles	candles	your	your

John John

REVIEW.

I like the Happy New Year.

I like Thanksgiving Day.

I like Christmas, too.

I love mamma and papa.

I love my baby brother.

I love my sister Nellie.

I like the grass, the flowers,
and the leaves.

I love the robins.

I love the little squirrels, too.

I like the winter.

I like the pretty, white snow-flakes.

I like the moon and stars.

cat	her	coat	not
fur	soft	but	has

My cat has fur.

It is soft fur.

The fur keeps her warm.

It is her coat.

My coat is not fur,
but it keeps me warm.

rain	does	they	kitty
off	eyes	she	day-time

The rain runs off the fur.

But my kitty does not like the rain.

My kitty likes to keep warm.

My kitty can run and jump.

She can roll, too.

See my kitty's eyes!

They look like this

in the day-time.

They look like this

at night.

dog	Rover	hair	so
what	John's	long	as

I am Rover.

I am John's dog.

See what long hair I have!

The hair is my coat.

My coat is not so soft as a cat's coat.

tail	am	go
with	sometimes	swim

But my coat is a good coat.

It keeps me warm.

Do you see my bright eyes?

Do you see my long tail?

John is good to me.

I love John, and John loves me.

Sometimes I go to the store with John.

Then I am happy.

I can swim.

Can you swim?

rabbit	pink
Mary	ears

Mary has a rabbit.

It has fur as white as snow.

It has little, pink eyes.

What a pretty rabbit, Mary!

What long ears it has!

teeth	eats	if
sharp	away	find

The rabbit has sharp teeth.

The rabbit eats green grass.

Mary's rabbit can run and jump.

Sometimes Mary's rabbit runs away.

If it runs away Mary looks for it.

If she can not find it
she is not happy.

Mary is good to her rabbit.

REVIEW WORDS.

has	day-time	tail
cat	she	with
her	rain	am
fur	as	sometimes
soft	so	ears
coat	long	pink
but	hair	its
not	Rover	Mary
off	John's	rabbit
kitty	dog	if
does	what	find
eyes	go	away
they	swim	eats
teeth		sharp

REVIEW.

Papa has a store.

Sometimes Rover and I
go with papa to the store.

Rabbit and kitty like to go, too.

But papa does not like
to have rabbit and kitty go.

They sometimes run away.

Rover is a good dog.

Rover does not run away.

So Rover can go.

Jack	big	legs	he
horse	head	his	trot

Jack is our horse.
He is a big horse.
Jack has a pretty head.
He has big, soft eyes.
His legs are long.
Jack can run and trot.

fast	give
him	brown

Jack will trot fast for papa.

Sometimes I ride on Jack.

Jack likes to eat apples.

I like to give him apples.

He eats apples with his big teeth.

How big they are!

I like to see Jack eat.

Jack eats the green grass.

Sometimes he rolls on the grass.

Jack is a pretty horse.

He has a shiny, brown coat.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON'S RULES.

(To be memorized during the week of Feb. 22.)

1. Think before you speak.
2. Always speak the truth.
3. Always do your best.
4. Obey your father and mother.

president soldier mother

first brave was

George Washington

was our first president.

He was a good president.

George Washington was a soldier.

He was a good soldier.

He was brave.

Washington was good to his mother.

His mother was Mary Washington.

OUR FLAG.

(To be memorized.)

I love the name of Washington,
I love my country, too.
I love the flag, the dear old flag
Of red and white and blue.

Red says, "Be brave."
White says, "Be pure."
Blue says, "Be true."

blue	told	six	sky
made	points	said	five

Betsey Ross

Our flag is red and white and blue.
It is a pretty flag and I love it.
Betsey Ross made the first flag.
George Washington told her how.
He told her to make stars
with six points.
But Betsey said: "The stars in the sky
have five points."
Betsey Ross made a star
with five points.
George Washington liked it.
So the stars on our flag have five points.

REVIEW WORDS.

horse	brown	sky
trot	give	points
legs	him	five
head	was	six
Jack	mother	told
he	soldier	flag
his	brave	made
big	president	blue
fast	first	Betsey Ross

George Washington

REVIEW.

I like a brave soldier.

George Washington was brave.

Our flag says, "Be brave."

I will be brave.

George Washington was good
to his mother.

I will be good to my mother.

I love my mother.

SILENT READING. ACTIONS TO BE PERFORMED.

I have a flag.

I run with the flag.

I am a soldier with my flag.

I will give the flag to you.

I will give the flag to John.

MEMORY GEM.

In bed of earth, so warm and safe,
All wrapped in blanket white,
The little seeds lie fast asleep,
Awaiting spring so bright.

Soon Sun will take the blanket off,
And grass and flowers will peep
Out into this great world of ours,
Fresh from their winter's sleep.

SPRING AND SUMMER LESSONS.

NOTE. — Whenever it is possible, have the objects of the lessons present in the class.

by	now	no
spring	less	more

Good-by to winter.
It is spring now.
We have less snow.
We have more rain.
There is no grass now.
There are no flowers.

grow	gone	side
all	north	sun

The rain
will make the green grass grow.

It will make the flowers grow, too.

I like the green grass.

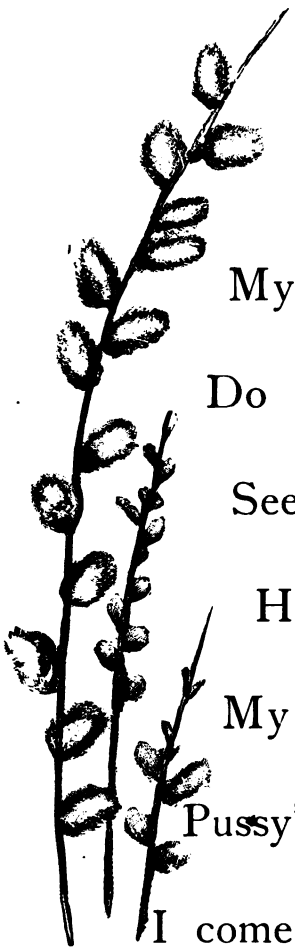
I like the pretty flowers.

The snow is not all gone.

There is a little on the north side
of the house.

There is no sun on the north side
of the house.

By and by the snow will all be gone.



Pussy-willow gray

name tell come

My name is Pussy-willow.

Do I look like your pussy?

See my pretty, gray coat!

How soft it is!

My coat keeps me so warm.

Pussy's coat keeps her warm, too.

I come to tell you it is spring.

I am happy in the spring; are you?

morning	glad	very
shine	been	light

Good morning, Sun.

How you shine!

I am glad to see you.

Are you glad to see me?

Where have you been all night?

You make me very happy.

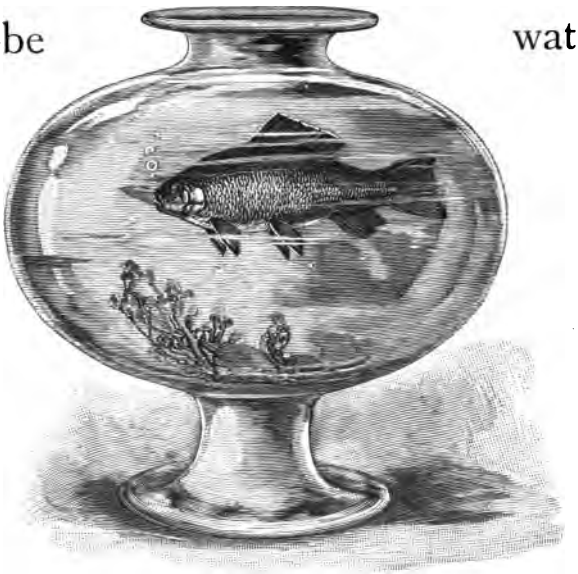
You give us light.

You make us warm.

You make the grass
and the flowers grow, too.

fish gold fresh

globe water



We have a little gold-fish.

It is in a big globe.

Water is in the globe.

The gold-fish swims in the water.

We will keep the water fresh.

move opens mouth
fins when

The gold-fish is a pretty fish.

It is yellow like gold.

I like to see it swim.

See its tail move!

What does it move for?

I can see the fins.

What are the fins for?

The gold-fish opens its mouth
when it swims.

What does it open its mouth for?

Swim, little fish, swim.

REVIEW WORDS.

sun	mouth	shine
side	come	morning
north	gray	fresh
gone	glad	globe
more	name	water
less	Pussy-willow	move
all	light	fish
grow	very	fins
spring	been	when
tell	by	opens
now	no	gold

REVIEW.

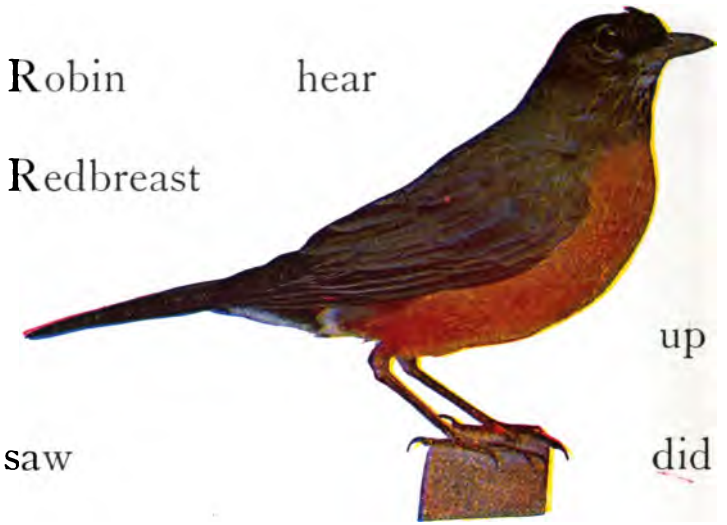
I am glad spring has come.
I am glad the sun
is so bright and warm.
I am glad to see Pussy-willow.
She tells us it is spring.
I like the snow in winter.
I do not like it in the spring.
So I am glad to see the rain.

The gold fish is not with us.
Nellie has it at her home.
I can see it sometimes.
It is so pretty in the big globe,
and it is happy there.

canary	feathers	sing	seeds
bird	bill	cage	two

The canary is a yellow bird.
It has soft feathers.
It has two little eyes.
How bright they are!
The canary can sing.
Can you sing?
This bird lives in a cage.
It is happy in a cage.
The canary has a sharp bill.
What does it eat?
It eats seeds.
I can give the canary seeds.
The canary likes water.

NOTE. — Have canary present.



Robin Redbreast is here.

I am glad, for I like to hear him sing.

Robin sings for all of us.

John saw Robin this morning.

Robin was up in a tree.

How he did sing!

How does Robin look?

Can you tell Robin when you see him?

nest	them
food	Mrs.

Robin has a nest in the apple-tree.

It is a pretty little nest.

Mrs. Robin is in the nest now.

The baby birds are in the nest, too.

Mrs. Robin is the mother bird.

She loves the baby birds.

Papa Robin gives them food to eat.

The Robins' home is happy.

My home is happy, too.

I love my happy home.

woodpecker black
wood trunk
pecks breast

This is a pretty bird.
It has feathers.
They are soft feathers.
They are black and white.
This bird has a white breast.
It has red on its head.
Its bill is very long.
It is sharp, too.
This bird pecks wood.
It is a woodpecker.
The woodpecker pecks wood
and makes its nest.
It makes its nest
in the trunk of a tree.

bluebird wings

four foot

toes fly

each

reddish

See this bird!
How blue it is!
It is a bluebird.
It has black on its wings.
Its breast is reddish brown.
Its bill is sharp and black.
There are four toes on each foot.
The bluebird can fly and sing.
Good-by, pretty bird.

REVIEW WORDS.

seeds	hear	black
cage	saw	wings
sing	up	breast
bill	wood	fly
feathers	nest	each
bird	woodpecker	foot
canary	pecks	toes
did	trunk	four
Mrs.	food	them
bluebird	reddish	two

Robin Redbreast

REVIEW

How I love the birds!

What soft, pretty feathers they have!

I like to hear the birds sing.

I like to see the pretty little nests
in the tree.

The robin and the woodpecker
like the trees.

The robin likes to fly.

The canary likes its cage.

The canary sings for us.

The birds, the flowers, the grass
and the trees make us happy.

How glad I am it is spring!

buds	sleep	grew
cradles	kind	wake

See our pretty buds!
They grew on a tree.
What kind of a tree was it?
We will give our buds fresh water.
We will keep them in the sun.
Then they will grow.
The buds are little cradles.
Baby leaves and baby flowers
sleep in the cradles.
They keep warm in the cradles.
They sleep fast all winter.
They will wake up now.
Spring is here.

NOTE. — Specimens present from any tree.

beans some put

draw to-night

We have some beans.

They are hard and white.

We will put them in water to-night.

Now I will draw a bean.

---

softer larger thin

Our beans are softer now.

They are larger, too.

We can see the bean's coat.

It is white and thin.

Can you see two coats?

split	germ	plant
open	inside	watch
	found	

We had some beans.
We split some of them open.
We found the little germ inside.
Did you see the little germ?
We will plant some beans.
We will give them water.
We will keep them in the sun.
They will grow.
The little germ will grow.
We will watch our beans.
Did you plant some beans?

stem	boys
short	girls
dandelion	almost
everywhere	many

I am a dandelion.

My flower is bright yellow.

My leaves are green.

Did you see me grow?

My stem is short now.

By and by it will be long.

I have many brothers and sisters.

They grow almost everywhere.

Boys and girls like us.

We like boys and girls.

violets sweet

We have some violets.

They are very sweet.

They tell us spring is here.

MEMORY GEM.

A tiny bunch of violets
We see this afternoon.
It breathes of spring, of birds on wing,
Of earth in sweet, full tune,
Of shady nooks and rippling brooks,
Of leaves still wet with dew,
Of life and love, of God above,
And all things good and true.

know roots

butter fields

Buttercup

Do you know me?
My flower is as yellow
as butter.
It is like a little cup.
My name is Buttercup.
My leaves are green.
See what a long stem I have!
I have roots, too.
I grow in the fields.
Do you like me?
See if you "like butter."
Do you like it?

beautiful earth wish
daisies together

We have some daisies.
How pretty they are!
I love the daisies.
They love the sun.
They grow in the fields.
They make the earth beautiful.

Buttercups have long stems.
Daisies have long stems.
Buttercups and daisies
look pretty together.

I will give some to mamma.
I wish I had some violets, too,
for mamma.

REVIEW WORDS.

grew	found	sweet
wake	inside	violets
sleep	germ	fields
kind	open	roots
cradles	split	know
buds	soften	butter
to-night	stem	buttercup
draw	girls	wish
put	boys	together
some	many	earth
beans	beautiful	almost
watch	everywhere	daisies
plant	dandelion	larger

thin short

REVIEW.

How sweet the flowers are!

They are beautiful, too.

Do you love flowers?

I love them.

Mamma loves them,

and I will give her some.

I will give her some daisies.

They grow almost everywhere.

I will look for some buttercups.

I will look for some violets, too.

They are so sweet and pretty.

The earth is beautiful now.

summer	butterflies	here
clouds	higher	dresses

How warm it is!

It is summer.

The sun is higher now.

The grass is so green.

The clouds are so blue.

The trees have on summer dresses.

The butterflies have come.

Flowers and birds are here.

The birds are so happy.

They sing and make us happy, too.

All the earth is glad, for it is summer.

MEMORY GEM.

O warm is the sun, on a bright summer's day,
And softly the wind sings to me.
The song that it sings tells of joy and of love,
And beauty of earth that we see.

The call of the birds, and the hum of the bees,
Make music that 's gladsome and sweet.
The butterflies flit from the leaf to the rose,
And nod to each neighbor they meet.

The leaves and the grass are so fresh and so green,
The sky is so clear and so blue.
The daisies, and buttercups yellow as gold,
Are sparkling with morning's own dew.

O summer 's the time for the young and the old,
For happiness breathes through the air.
All nature is bright, and all nature is gay, —
All nature is gladsome and fair.

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